

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

INSPECTION OF SERVICE LINE
INSTALLATIONS BY WATER UTILITIES

) ADMINISTRATIVE
) CASE NO. 329

O R D E R

In view of the large number of applications by water utilities for a deviation from Commission Regulation 807 KAR 5:066, Section 10(3), the Commission has reviewed this regulation and believes a clarification is required.

The Commission, having fully considered the matter and being sufficiently advised, is of the opinion and finds that:

1. Any person, firm, or corporation who installs any plumbing, including service lines to a water utility's distribution main, must procure a plumbing installation permit from the Kentucky Department of Housing, Building, and Construction ("the Department") before installing that plumbing. KRS 318.134. Farmsteads,¹ however, are exempt from this requirement. KRS 318.015(3).

2. Any plumbing installed under a plumbing permit must be installed in accordance with the plumbing permit and the Kentucky State Plumbing Code. KRS 318.134.

¹ A farmstead is "a farm dwelling together with other farm buildings and structures incident to the operation and maintenance of the farm situated on ten (10) acres or more of land which is located outside the corporate limits of a municipality." KRS 318.010(8).

3. The Kentucky State Plumbing Code requires water service lines to be free from any tee, branch connection, irregularity or defect. 815 KAR 20:100.

4. Prior to the completion of any plumbing installation, the Department conducts an inspection to ensure that the plumbing installation complies with the provisions of the Kentucky State Plumbing Code. KRS 318.130 and 318.134. In those localities where local government has enacted by ordinance the Kentucky State Plumbing Code, inspections are conducted by local governments. KRS 138.140.

5. The inspections conducted by the Department or by local government are comparable to those required of a water utility by Commission Regulation 807 KAR 5:066, Section 10(3).

6. To require a water utility to perform an inspection of any service line installation where the Department or local government has already conducted a comparable inspection would result in a needless duplication of efforts.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that:

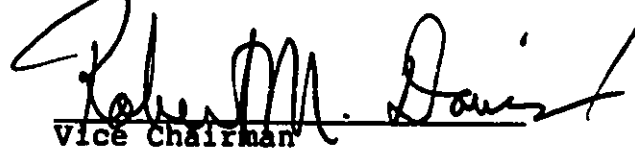
1. Commission Regulation 807 KAR 5:066, Section 10(3) is interpreted as follows: In those instances where the Department or local government has conducted a service line inspection to comply with KRS 318.134, and a water utility requests and receives proof of such inspection, the water utility shall be deemed to have complied with Commission Regulation 807 KAR 5:066, Section 10(3).

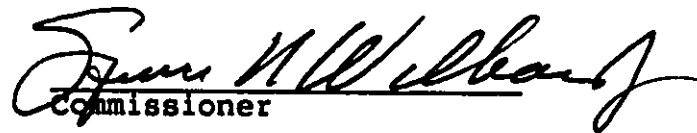
2. All water utilities shall conduct such inspections where the same are not required by KRS Chapter 318.

Done at Frankfort, Kentucky, this 19th day of May, 1989.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION


Chairman


Vice Chairman


Commissioner

ATTEST:

Executive Director